

MEMS ACTUATOR FOR PISTON AND TILT MOTION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A MEMS device having a spring structure formed by two flexible beams attached
between a substrate and a movable bar. When non-end sections of the beams are pulled
in opposite directions, the beam ends attached to the movable bar pull that bar toward the
substrate, thereby transforming in-plane motion of the non-end sections into out-of-plane
motion of the movable bar. When the non-end sections are displaced symmetrically, the
movable bar translates toward the substrate. Alternatively, when the non-end sections are
10 displaced non-symmetrically, the movable bar rotates with respect to the substrate. In
one embodiment, each flexible beam is attached to a comb-shaped portion of a motion
actuator, which has two such portions, each portion interleaved with the other portion and
adapted to move with respect to the substrate and that other portion. When a voltage
differential is applied between the portions, they move substantially parallel to the
15 substrate, thereby deforming the beams and translating/rotating the movable bar.